



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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DEQ Secretary announces executive staff

BATON ROUGE – Newly appointed Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Secretary Harold Leggett announced his executive staff today.

Vladimir Alexander Appeaning has been named Deputy Secretary. Before joining DEQ, Appeaning served as Adjunct Associate Professor of Public Policy at Southern University and A&M College, Nelson Mandela School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs. He served as vice president for the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at Langston University in Langston, OK.

Cheryl Nolan will be Assistant Secretary of the Office of Environmental Services, which is the office that handles environmental permitting. Nolan has been with DEQ nearly 17 years and has worked with water permits and air and water enforcement. She recently served as administrator for air permits.

Peggy Hatch will be Assistant Secretary of the Office of Environmental Compliance. She will be over the compliance arm of DEQ. Hatch has 23 years of experience with the state, 18 spent at DEQ. Most recently, she was an administrator for Environmental Enforcement.

Vince Sagnibene will be the Undersecretary and in charge of the Office of Management and Finance. He has been with DEQ for more than 22 years and has served a variety of roles during his tenure. Before becoming Undersecretary, Sagnibene was a Division Administrator providing technical guidance regarding pollution sources, facilities and sites.

Beau Brock joins DEQ as Confidential Assistant to the Secretary. Brock comes from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency where he was Regional Criminal Enforcement Counsel. In that role, he was in-house counsel for criminal enforcement of environmental crimes for EPA agents in Louisiana.

Herman Robinson has served as DEQ Executive Counsel for the past four years and will continue to serve in that position. During his tenure with DEQ, Robinson has held positions of Staff Attorney, Administrative Law Judge, Administrative Law Judge Administrator, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Legal Affairs and Enforcement and General Counsel.

Rodney Mallett will continue to serve as Press Secretary. He has been with DEQ for more than four years.

“I’m excited about the staff we have assembled and look forward to DEQ’s future,” Leggett, said. “The staff has a lot of experience and has the technical skills needed to lead the department and to keep the playing field level throughout the regulated community. We want to be a service-oriented department that provides information and uses the technical skills and ability of its staff to serve the people of the state.”